

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NEW DE 00477 101436Z

50
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EA-06 AF-06 EUR-12 PRS-01 DLOS-03

DODE-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 /086 W
----- 119671

R 101350Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6223
INFO CINCPAC
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 0477

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, US, XO
SUBJECT: ENTERPRISE TASK FORCE

REF: STATE 284299

1. POL COUNSELOR INFORMED TEJA (MEA JOINT SECRETARY, AMERICAS) JANUARY 6 OF ANTICIPATED ENTERPRISE TASK FORCE MOVEMENT INTO INDIAN OCEAN. TEJA DID NOT REACT EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT, IN VIEW OF POST INDIAN CONSCIOUSNESS OF ENTERPRISE IN 1971, WE COULD PROBABLY EXPECT SOME PRESS COMMENT.

2. GOI'S PRESS SPOKESMAN (MEA HAKSAR) TOLD PRESS JANUARY 9 IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES THAT GOVERNMENT HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT MOVEMENTS OF AMERICAN SEVENTH FLEET ELEMENTS TOWARD INDIAN OCEAN BUT THAT "INDIAN POLICY ON THE SUBJECT OF THESE REPORTS HAS BEEN OFTEN STATED AND IS WELL KNOWN." SPOKESMAN ALSO RECALLED MRS. GANDHI'S COMMENT AT DINNER FOR MAURITIUS PRIME MINISTER (NEW DELHI 0375) EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER

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EXPANSION OF MILITARY BASES AND INDUCTION OF "MASSIVE AND

POWERFUL FLEETS AND ARMAMENTS" INTO INDIAN OCEAN.

3. THE INDIAN NAVY DNI CALLED THE NAVAL ATTACHE BY PHONE
JANUARY 10 TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE TASK FORCE BUT EXPRESSED
NO COMMENTS ON THE FACTUAL INFORMATION PROVIDED HIM.

4. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT FROM PRESS SPOKESMAN'S HANDLING OF
INITIAL INQUIRIES THAT GOI OFFICIALS WILL ATTEMPT TO
CONTINUE TO HANDLE FUTURE QUESTIONS IN A RELATIVELY LOW KEY,
BUT THIS WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER PM GANDHI ESCALATES HER
OWN RHETORIC.

SCHNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: NEW DELHI
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